PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference T0504-900701	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/US93/08866	International filing date *(day/month/year)* 17 SEPTEMBER 1993	(Earliest) Priority Date *(day/month/year)* 18 SEPTEMBER 1992
Applicant 3COM CORPORATION		

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

[X] It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. [ ] **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box I).

2. [ ] **Unity of invention is lacking** (See Box II).

3. [ ] The international application contains disclosure of a **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing** and the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing
   - [ ] filed with the international application.
   - [ ] furnished by the applicant separately from the international application,
     - [ ] but not accompanied by a statement to the effect that it did not include matter going beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed.
   - [ ] transcribed by this Authority.

4. With regard to the **title,**
   - [X] the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
   - [ ] the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract,**
   - [ ] the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.
   - [X] the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is:
   Figure No. 3
   - [X] as suggested by the applicant.
   - [ ] because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.
   - [ ] because this figure better characterizes the invention.
   - [ ] None of the figures.

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Box III TEXT OF THE ABSTRACT (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

Combined indication signals of data block transfers are generated by a device which reduces the number of interrupts to a host processor (5). The reduction in the number of interrupts enhances host system performance during data block transfers. An embodiment of the device may be a network adapter (3a) comprising network interface logic (11) for transferring a data frame between a network (2) and a buffer memory (9) and host interface logic (11) for transferring a data frame between a buffer memory (9) and a host system (1). The network adapter (3a) further includes threshold logic (10) for generating an early receive indication signal when a portion of the data frame is received. Indication combination logic (10a) delays the generation of a transfer complete interrupt to slightly before the expected occurrence of the early receive indication. The host processor (5) is able to service both the transfer complete indication and the early receive indication in a single interrupt service routine caused by the transfer complete indication.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(5) :G06F 13/12
US CL :395/250

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 395/200; 364/239.4, 251.3, 938.2

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

Please See Extra Sheet.

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US, A, 4,546,467 (Yamamoto) 08 October 1985, col 4, lines 55-68, and col 5, lines 1-2	1-28
A	US, A, 4,680,581 (Kozlik) 14 July 1987, col 7, lines 33-68, and col 8, lines 1-40.	1-28
A	US, A, 5,103,446 (Fisher) 07 April 1992, col 8, lines 40-68, and col 9, lines 1-4.	1-28

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. ☐ See patent family annex.

*	Special categories of cited documents:	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be part of particular relevance	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E"	earlier document published on or after the international filing date	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&"	document member of the same patent family
"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

Date of the actual completion of the international search 26 OCTOBER 1993	Date of mailing of the international search report DEC 27 1993
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231 Facsimile No. NOT APPLICABLE	Authorized officer MOUSTAFA M.MEKY Telephone No. (703) 305-9697

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)(July 1992)*

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED
Electronic data bases consulted (Name of data base and where practicable terms used):

APS, IEEE
buffer memory, network transceiver, interface, counting data, interrupt host, counter, comparator, threshold, data block, interrupt signal, indication signal, host